

Dear Judiciary Committee

Please move H 492 forward.

I am a pediatrician and for the last 12 years have organized Camp Agape, a summer camp for VT children who have a parent in prison. Our camp population reflects the skewed racial population of VT prisons. A child with an incarcerated parent has a 75% risk of becoming incarcerated themselves some day. Having a parent in prison is one of the 10 Adverse Childhood Experiences that make up the ACES. Its effects are born by the children throughout their lives.

Please move this bill forward and stop the generational impact of unfair profiling, unfair indictments, and unfair sentencing experienced by people of color in VT.

Thank you for your work.

Beth Ann Maier MD